

Gov. Jennifer M. Granholm and Gen. Cutler review Michigan Army National Guard Soldiers during the annual Review and Memorial held at the conclusion of annual training at Camp Grayling, in August.



The governor and Gen. Cutler greet Sgt. Nicholas Kasbohm during a welcome home ceremony for the Pontiac based 1775th Military Police Company. The governor wears the dog tags the unit gave her upon their departure.



Gen. Cutler visits with Master Sgt. Joseph Patrick, during the multi-national task force exercise RESCUER/MEDCUER held in Latvia. Patrick, a member of the 107th Engineer Battalion, was the NCOIC of a Latvian school renovation project.

* * From the desk of * * * The Adjutant General *

Another "Greatest Generation"

The following is an excerpt of the speech that Gen. Cutler delivered Aug. 13 during the Annual Camp Grayling Review and Memorial.

I want to extend a special welcome to the men and women who stand in the field before us. These are men and women who represent the very best America has to offer, men and women who have chosen to serve our nation.

As you know, this event is a time to remember and celebrate the lives and the service of those soldiers we've lost this past year. It's also a time to celebrate our successes and reflect upon the tremendous role we've had in meeting our nation's call over the past 12 months. At times, we've had as many as 2,300 Soldiers and Airmen deployed, serving in the United States, Guantanamo Bay, Bosnia, the Sinai Peninsula, Uzbekistan, Kuwait, and Iraq. And that, ladies and gentlemen, is the short list. Today, we have nearly 1,500 men and women deployed and we have alerted another 1,200 soldiers for deployment this fall.

As our members deploy, I've been thankful for the investment we've made in our training. We've spent many years training to fight a war we hoped we would not have to fight. We trained for a war against an enemy we fundamentally understood and an enemy who did not want to fight that war.

Today, however, we train for a war we did not anticipate, a war against an enemy we do not fully understand, an enemy who has chosen to take the fight to us, and an enemy who fully desires to change our way of life.

As we meet these challenges, the common thread is the quality of the men and women who serve in our National Guard—the men and women who have deployed and the men and women who stand before us. They are dedicated and anxious to serve. They are our modern day heroes.

As many of you may remember, President Ronald Reagan often reminded us of America's great heroes. In one of his state of the union addresses, he told us of Martin Treptow who was killed in 1917 on Europe's western front. In his diary Treptow wrote, "America must win this war. Therefore, I will work, I will save, I will sacrifice, I will endure, and I will fight cheerfully, and do my utmost, as if the issue of the whole struggle depended on me alone!"

I can tell you, the basic nature of those who answer our nation's call has not changed much since 1917. This generation of Soldiers and Airmen understand this is a war we must win. They work hard, sacrifice, endure, fight, and do their utmost for the country they love. You would have no doubt of this if you were with me when we welcomed home the 1775th MP Company after 19 months of service in Kuwait and Iraq. This unit faced incredible challenges and lost a fellow Soldier, Sgt. Craig Frank. Like each one of our deployed units, they served with distinction and fully understand the meaning and cost of liberty and freedom. I believe our nation has created another "greatest generation."

As I close, I want to thank you for your service and for the passion you bring to accomplishing your mission. I am very proud of you and I am honored to serve as your adjutant general.

May God bless you, your families, and the United States of America.

Thank you.

Maj. Gen. Thomas G. Cutler



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Benefits for Michigan veterans

The Department of Veterans Affairs is responsible for the operation of two state veterans nursing homes with a capacity for nearly 1,000 residents; the administration of a \$50 million Veterans Trust Fund which provides emergency financial assistance to war era veterans; college tuition assistance to the children of specified veterans; and the oversight of \$3.8 million in state grant money for 11 veteran service organizations which provide benefit advice, assistance, and counseling to Michigan veterans.

The Grand Rapids Home for Veterans can facilitate 758 patients and provides more days of care to veterans than any other veteran's home in the U.S. A second home, the D.J. Jacobetti Veterans Home in Marquette can care for 241 patients.

The homes provide three levels of care: structured environment-assisted living, skilled nursing (a registered nurse available 24 hours,) and a special needs unit for Alzheimer and dementia care patients.

Honorably discharged Michigan veterans with 90 or more days of federal war era service (WWII, Korea, Cold, Vietnam, and post Aug. 2, 1990) are eligible for admission. The spouse and dependent parents of eligible veterans have similar eligibility but may only be admitted when a waiting list of veterans does not exist.

Our staff responds to over 3,000 annual requests for military certificates of discharge. We maintain records for all Michigan veterans who received the state's WWII, Korean or Vietnam War bonus. We also have copies of federal discharges issued since 1980. Veterans or their families use these documents to establish military funeral honors for

a deceased loved one, apply for social security benefits, file claims with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, apply for employment, and re-enlist in the armed forces.

The Michigan Veterans Trust
Fund is an emergency grant program
operated by volunteers in every
Michigan County. This program
assists honorably discharged war era
veterans (with 180 or more days of
active federal service) and their
dependents with grants to alleviate
temporary emergency financial
situations.

The Tuition Grant Program provides tuition assistance to a child of a service member who died on active duty or is receiving a 100 percent disability rating for service connected injury or illness. Currently, the benefit available to eligible students is \$2,800 per year.

The Department of Veterans Affairs endeavors to provide the best care and service to Michigan veterans. We applaud the accomplishments of generation after generation of great American heroes. We love what we do!

Brig. Gen. Carol Ann Fausone

For more information on veterans benefits, visit www.michigan.gov/dmva/veteransaffairs or call (517) 335-6523.

The Grand Rapids Home for Veterans may be reached at 1-800-642-4838 and D.J. Jacobetti may be reached at (906) 226-3576.



Gen. Fausone is asked to speak at numerous events. On D-Day she spoke to veterans at the state Capital rotunda. Above, she explains veterans benefits at the Air National Guard Senior NCO Conference in Ypsilanti, Mich.



Gen. Fausone accepts a donation for the veterans homes from Disabled American Veteran's respresentative Harvey Slotman and DAV hospital chairman for the Grand Rapids home Richard Straub. Total donations given to Michigan's two veterans homes in 2003 totaled \$65 thousand.



Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Cub Scouts, and Brownies help retire the weather worn 30 x 50 foot flag that previously flew over the grounds of the Grand Rapids Veterans Home.

Bullets

• Discount trip to Bahamas

Laker Airways Ltd. is offering reduced airfare of \$159 (excluding taxes) to the Bahamas for all service members and their families. The roundtrip is available from the Lansing Capital City Airport to Nassau, Bahamas.

Free airfare (excluding taxes) is offered to service members who have served in Iraq or Afghanistan since January 2003.

For reservations call (954) 359-0199, extension 3005 or 3025, or e-mail reservations@laker.net. Their Web site: www.lakerbahamas.com.

• Deployed troops set re-up pace

Army National Guardsmen who have seen the worst of war are re-enlisting in the military at a higher rate than those who haven't been mobilized.

"Retention is higher in the units that have been mobilized than across the force," said Brig. Gen. Frank Grass, Army National Guard deputy director.

In an average year, the Army Guard sees about 18 percent of the force retire or separate. For fiscal 2004, officials

estimate that about 14 percent of mobilized units will leave, and 16.9 percent of the overall force will depart.

Grass said exit interviews from soldiers demobilizing indicate Guardsmen really do consider themselves a "Band of Brothers."

"Part of what's happening here is this team that used to see each other one weekend a month and two weeks in the summer, have just come together. Many of them have fought in combat side by side, and they come back and that relationship they've built is key to them staying in."

• DSN deployed members

The Defense Switch Network (DSN) at the Joint Force Headquarters in Lansing, is available for deployed Soldiers and Airmen, for local and toll free telephone access. Calling the DSN number allows the caller to connect to the U.S. at no charge and when using a calling card, it will be charged the normal rate, versus the higher rate charged when using a calling card outside the U.S. The DSN phone

number is 312-623-0517. For callers within CONUS, dial just the last seven digits.

Dare to DEFY

The Michigan National Guard Drug Education for Youth Program is a comprehensive, prevention program available for youth ages 9 to 12. The program emphasizes the positive development of mind, body, and spirit and the importance of remaining drug free. DEFY works to change at-risk behavior by providing the tools youth need to resist drugs, gangs, and alcohol.

The leadership and life skills taught by DEFY include goal setting, team building, conflict resolution, and decision making. The six goals of the DEFY program include improve self-image; improve interpersonal skills; expand life opportunities; develop a healthy lifestyle; increase awareness of the harmful effects of alcohol, tobacco and other drugs; and improve citizenship.

For more information, contact the Michigan National Guard Counter Drug Division, (517) 483-5601.

Commander in Chief
Gov. Jennifer M. Granholm

The Adjutant General
Maj. Gen. Thomas G. Cutler

Assistant Adjutant General for Army Brig. Gen. Robert V. Taylor

Assistant Adjutant General for Air Brig. Gen. Kencil J. Heaton

Assistant Adjutant General for Veterans Affairs Brig. Gen. Carol Ann Fausone

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THE WOLVERINE GUARD



Command Sgt. Majs. Dan Lincoln (left) and John Shipley fold the 46th Infantry Brigade flag at the inactivation ceremony. See page 15 for story. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Ron Raflik) The Wolverine Guard is an unofficial publication authorized under the provision of AR 360-1. The views and opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the Department of the Army or the Department of the Air Force. It is published quarterly by the Michigan National Guard Joint Force Headquarters Public Affairs Office with a press run of 15,500.

Readers are encouraged to submit comments, articles, and information for publication to:

The Wolverine Guard 2500 S. Washington Avenue Lansing, Michigan 48913 or e-mail us at WolverineGuard@Michigan.gov

Adopt a Michigan National Guard family

By Capt. Dawn Dancer

As the holidays draw near, many of us look for ways to assist our fellow mankind.

Again this year, many Michigan National Guard members are serving overseas while their families try to make the best of the holidays without them. As a National Guard family, it's second nature for us to look out for our buddies, so it's probably no surprise to learn that you can make a difference this season to our deployed brothers and sisters by "adopting" their families.

The Michigan National Guard Adopt-a-Family Program pairs Guard families with organizations who want to adopt a family for the holidays.

Organizations donate a Thanksgiving food basket or a Christmas food basket plus various Christmas gifts including one clothing outfit for each family member and a few toys for each child.

The Adopt-a-Family



Program is coordinated though the State Family Program Office in Lansing. The program seeks families who are having a hard time adjusting to a loved one's deployment or recent return. Assistance may be financial or sentimental, as often our families just need a shoulder to cry on.

To be considered for "adoption," fill out the application below and mail it the State Family Program by Nov. 10.

Organizations who would like to adopt a family should contact the Family Program Office at (517) 702-5116/5117.

Adopt-a-Family Application

Name:	Address:			
Phone number:	Alternate phone number:		Best time to call:	
Rank/name of service member: _	Unit:			
Deployment date:	_ Number of family n	nembers: Adults	_ Children	Ages
Which holiday would you like to b	e adopted for?	Thanksgiving	Christmas	
List items or food groups that any	family member may ha	ave an allergic reactio	n to:	
Wish List: (Should include clothin books. Use additional paper if nec		ach family member. A	lso list ideas for o	children's toys, games, or
I give permission to release my nar	me, phone number, and	d address to the organi	zation who adop	ts usYesNo
If no, indicate pick-up location:				
Family Assistance Center loc	ated at			
Armory located at				
Other (specify time, date, and				
			Mail applicat an National Guard Adopt-a-Family (2500 S. Washingt	d Family Program Campaign
Signature			Lansing, Mich.	., 48913

Michigan mourns

Sgt. Craig S. Frank, 24, of Lincoln Park, Mich., died July 17 of injuries sustained when his convoy hit an improvised explosive device in Iraq.

Frank, a member of the 1775th Military Police Company, Pontiac, Mich., graduated from Lincoln Park High School in 1997. He was a member of JROTC, the track and field team, and the swim team. He was an avid reader and loved the outdoors and running.

Frank was interested in law enforcement and joined the National Guard to serve as a MP. He attended Eastern Michigan University where he was studying to be a teacher.

Donations may be made in Frank's name to the Michigan



Members of the 156th Signal Battaion assisted with the military funeral honors for Sgt. Craig S. Frank who died July 17 while serving in Iraq. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Ron Raflik)

National Guard Family Fund, which provides a grant of up to \$500 to Soldiers, Airmen, and their families who are experiencing financial difficulties during a deployment. Mail donations to Michigan Joint Force Headquarters, ATTN: Family Fund, 2500 S. Washington Ave., Lansing, MI 48913.

Spc. Donald R. McCune II, 20, of Ypsilanti, died at a hospital in Landstuhl, Germany, Aug. 5, from injuries sustained when an explosive device detonated near his patrol in Balad, Iraq.

McCune was assigned to the Washington Army National Guard but had previously served in the Michigan Army National Guard.

McCune was the step-son of Michigan Guardsman Sgt. Benjamin Lewis, a member of Company D, 156th Signal Battalion. Lewis returned from a tour of duty in Iraq this past May.

Staff Sgt. Craig Cherry, 39, of Winchester, Va., died August, 7 in Afghanistan after his vehicle was struck with by an explosive. Cherry was assigned to the Virginia Army National Guard and had previously served with the 46th Infantry Brigade, Michigan Army National Guard.

In harm's way

By Chaplain (Lt. Col.) William C. Hensen

Some time ago, Gen. Tommy R. Franks, commander of the U.S. Armed Forces in Iraq, was interviewed on TV. He and the interviewer discussed the campaign in Iraq. I couldn't help liking Gen. Franks. He didn't claim much for himself and he was quick to give credit to the troops and their commanders for successes.

The interview ended with the question, "What is the most difficult part of your assignment?" Without hesitation Franks answered, "Sending soldiers in harm's way."

He then explained how heavyhearted he felt about soldiers in battle risking their lives, how he laid awake nights fretting about their safety, the pain he felt for the wounded, and the sadness for those killed. It was one of those poignant moments that put the interviewer off guard. There was a moment of silence -- Franks bowed his head, seemingly struggling with his emotions.

Franks is not alone. All of us who serve in the military are never far from reminders of the sobering immensity of sending men and women into combat. Every time we bid farewell, it crosses our minds, "What will befall them?"

Michigan has suffered its share of casualties in support of the global war on terrorism. Therefore, as we think of

those military personnel who are in places of peril and suffering, please pray that these individuals will remain safe and well. Pray for their families and loved ones back home who are wondering about and praying for their loved one's safe return. Let this year be a year of increased prayers and support for those who are forward deployed. May Almighty God shield and protect those who are sent abroad. Let their safety and well-being be more on our minds than ever before. Our prayers and concern for their safety increasingly cause us to remember, they are in harm's way.

On behalf of a grateful nation

By Staff Sgt. Jonathan Stein

Many of today's military members joined the military because they grew up hearing great stories about it from an older relative. To honor the men and women who lived these stories, it's fitting to provide military funeral honors.

"The World War II veterans are really my heroes and they are the reason I enlisted in the Army," said Master Sgt. Jeffery Rector, military funeral honors coordinator for the Michigan National Guard.

Rector's job is busy, due to the high numbers of WWII veterans passing away each year. When he receives a death notice from Fort Knox, Ky., he contacts one of the several teams located throughout Michigan.

"We had 20 funerals in October and November, 56 in March, and 63 in April," said Rector. "We've done 97 percent of the missions assigned to us and 52 percent of the missions assigned to Michigan." The active Army and Army Reserve took care of the other 48 percent.

"If we can't provide the military funeral honors, then Fort Knox sends a team 14 hours away to do it," said Rector.

Soldiers like Sgt. Vanessa Kramer and Sgt. Sean Taylor of the 144th Military Police Company, Owosso, Mich., are part of a reaction team to fill in if someone else is not available.

"We need to honor those who have served before us," said Taylor. My grandfather was in the 8th Infantry during World War II, landed on Utah beach, and was a POW shortly after that. Unfortunately, he didn't get military funeral honors because this program wasn't in place."

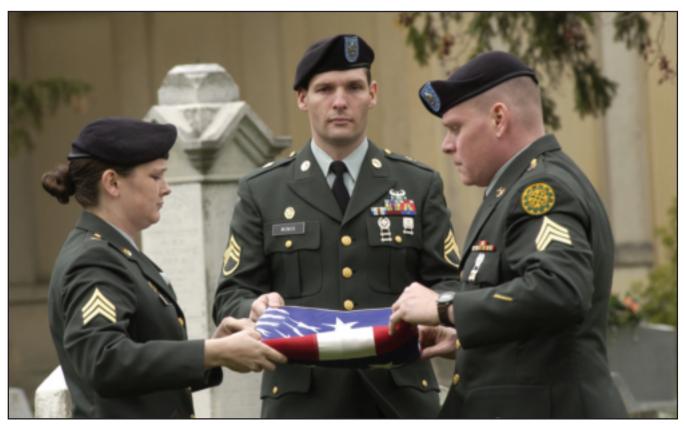
Congress assigned military funeral honors to the Department of Defense in 1999 because of the large number of aging WWII and Korean war veterans.

"The law requires that we put a minimum of two soldiers together as a team," said Rector. "We have teams in Grand Rapids, Detroit, Grayling, and the Upper Peninsula, and a reactionary team in Lansing to respond if something falls through."

The teams do a lot of training. "We do a lot of planning and practice but the unexpected does happen, like people standing where we weren't expecting them," said Kramer. "You have to be aware of your surroundings and adapt."

With the large number of WWII era veterans passing away, the Michigan Military Honors team needs additional volunteers. Soldiers should meet height and weight requirements, be proficient in drill and ceremony, and have their class A uniform ready.

For more information call (517) 702 –1174.



Sgt. Vanessa Kramer, Staff Sgt. Jonathan Minix, and Sgt. Sean Taylor practice folding the flag prior to a funeral where they provided military funeral honors. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Ron Raflik)

State of the art facility opens for cutting-edge responders

By Sgt. Adam Swager

In March, 22 members of the 51st Weapons of Mass Destruction Civil Support Team moved out of their Fort Custer WWII barracks and into a building designed specifically for them.

The new, federally funded facility is designed in the likeness of the Maine CST facility. "Blueprints were sent here as a template," said Maj. Clark Hinga, commander of the 51st. "Then we made modifications for maximum space utilization. After consulting with engineers to meet code regulations and logistical considerations, the building ensued."

Maj. Ed H. Hallenbeck, a civil engineer for the Michigan National Guard, was the lead contractor. His focus was to build a facility to meet the needs of the 51st.

"I could have built it the way I wanted to, but I don't have to live in it," said Hallenbeck. "Instead, I customized the design to the users needs within allowable guidelines."

After consulting with the 51st, the environmental office, and the safety

office, construction began in September 2002.

The facility features four skylights, a medical examination room, a breakroom with a washer and dryer, a locker room with plenty of storage space for gear, and ample office space with state-of-the-art computer and telephone capabilities.

"We're an equipment-intensive group," said Hinga. "With the new configuration, our equipment is more accessible at a moment's notice."

"Physical security was also considered when building this facility," said Hinga. A hurricane fence encloses the facility and immediate grounds and a double entry way with keypad and identification locks ensure only certified personnel can enter. The interior of the building is blanketed with a motion sensory security system. A regulation vault was also built for the storage of weapons.

Responding to a wide range populace is crucial to the 51st, the only team of its kind in Michigan.

"Fort Custer is really the ideal location," said Hinga. "It's halfway between Chicago and Detroit, within 30 miles of both I-69 and US 131 via I-94, and it's adjacent to Battle Creek International Airport. From here we can respond to a wide range of population bases."

The CST's job is to test for and identify nuclear, biological, or chemical agents.

Each soldier and airman undergo 600 to 800 hours of training before they're considered qualified. They execute containment training four or five times per month. In contrast, the average first responder gets only 40 to 80 hours of NBC training and sustains it just once per month.

"We're a stop-gap between the local and federal responders," said Hinga. "We can respond in a matter of hours and can determine if an agent is present and which one it is. In today's world, we're one of the best resources a state can have."



Maj. Gen. Tom Cutler cuts "Do not cross-hazardous material" police tape during a ribbon cutting ceremony for the new CST facility at Fort Custer. From left to right are Brig.Gen. Ken Heaton, Kalamazoo Mayor Robert Jones, State Representative Alexander Lipsey, Cutler, Parchment Mayor Daniel Degraw, and Col. Mike McDaniel. (Photo by Sgt. Jonathan Stein)

The 1462nd Transportation Company saves a life in Iraq

I cannot tell you enough how

professional and courageous

the Army National Guard unit

from Howell, Michigan is.

I'm an employee of Kellogg Brown and Root (Halliburton's Engineering and Construction Group) and have been in Balad, Iraq for the last six months as a truck driver hauling ice to bases all over the country.

During a night mission on June 29, our 20 vehicle convoy was ambushed by a "daisy chain" of improvised explosive devices, rocketpropelled grenades, and smallarms fire. Three soldiers and I were wounded.

My vehicle was hit on the front right side and shrapnel came through the passenger

side window, tearing into my right arm and chest. I was bleeding all over the place, sending me into confusion and shock.

The next thing I remember is someone pulling me out of the truck, laying me on the ground, and elevating my legs. Someone put an IV into my arm and kept pressure on my wounds.

As I was being treated, I heard the sound of smallarms fire, which I believe were our guys keeping the enemy off us long enough to get the injured into a helicopter. My purpose for writing this is to thank the 1462nd Transportation Company and their commander, Capt. Edward Cornish. They were responsible for saving my life. I cannot tell you enough how professional and

courageous the Army National Guard unit from Howell, Mich., is and how bravely they reacted under an intense amount of pressure. These guys were so cool and calm during the whole ordeal, like it happens to them every day. It just made me relax and calm down and I knew I was in good hands with them around.

A couple of days after the

ordeal, they came by the hospital to check on me. What a great bunch of guys.

You guys are in my prayers, and those of my wife, every day. Come home safe and come home soon and I'll buy the beer. Just let me know what airport you'll be coming into and I'll meet you there with a pickup-full.

Craig T. Compton Hudson, Fla.

Guard car leads from the front

By Master Sgt. Denice Rankin

Bragging rights went to the National Guard this year at the Michigan International Speedway, Brooklyn, Mich. The fastest car during the Gordon Food Service Marketplace 400 Race proudly displayed "National Guard" and "Go Guard.com" on each of its rear quarter panels. The number 16 Ford Taurus crossed the finish line first and gave driver Greg Biffle his second career win.

The National Guard is the largest sponsor of the race car. The win gives the National Guard great visibility and reinforces and proves that the National Guard leads from the front.

Greg Biffle (top photo), driver of the National Guard sponsored race car, showers his crew after his win. Number 16 takes a victory lap. (Photos by Staff Sgt. Helen Miller)



Hockeytown deployment

171st Airlift Squadron in Afghanistan

By Lt. Col. Mike Thomas

At K-2 air base in Afghanistan, the days are long for the aviators, maintainers, and support personnel of the 127th Wing. While many joke about Air Force personnel

living in five-star hotels, I can attest to the challenges of tent living, the walk in the nighttime chill to use the portable restroom, and the cold morning shower at the end of a hundred yards.

Having no locker means living out of an A-bag. We walk to work and to the dining hall. But perhaps the biggest disappointment is that much of

the equipment and extra items brought from home never gets used and stays inside those A-bags.

For the flying crews, it is not just that someone down below intends you grave harm, it is also the dangers of flying at high ceilings to avoid mountain ranges and the challenges of landing on short unimproved strips.

The 171st Airlift Squadron aircrews flew humanitarian

and nation support missions. For some, this included flying Afghanistan President Hamid Karzai to locations throughout the country. He is described as the epitome of a

gentleman and often posed for pictures with the crews.

The 171st served with Guard members from Idaho, North Carolina, California, Rhode Island, and Illinois, in a big rainbow squadron/group effort. Between missions, many joined us at the Six Pack Theater, "the Hockeytown" corner of tent city.

In Hockeytown, we flew our U.S., Michigan, and Detroit Red Wings flags. The Army Command Sgt. Maj. ordered us to bring our U.S. flag lower than the base U.S. flag. Suffice it to say, when our flags were lowered to half staff, everyone asked, "Who died?" This was typical of many non-combat skirmishes over the days and weeks at K-2. Win some. Lose some. But always Six Packers.



For the flying crews, it is not just that

someone down below intends you grave

harm, it is also the dangers of flying at

high ceilings to avoid mountain ranges

and the challenges of landing on short

unimproved strips.

Members of the 127th Wing pose with Afghani soldiers near Hockeytown at the K-2 Air Base in Afghanistan. Pictured left to right are Maj. Brian Nunley, an Afghani soldier, Master Sgt. Scott Dickenson, 1st Lt. Leah Voelker, Senior Airman Jordan Flaga, and another Afghani soldier. (Photo courtesy of the 127th Wing)

Sappers go to summer school

107th Engineers lead Latvian renovation project

Story and photo by Staff Sgt. Jonathan Stein

Sappers are combat engineers who advance with the front-line infantry. They have fought in every war in American history. Sappers played a vital role in securing Omaha Beach on D-Day. The incident is faithfully re-created in "Saving Private Ryan.". The invading Soldiers were unable to advance through the beach obstacles and were pinned down by German machine guns. A group of combat engineers crawled forward under heavy fire. Despite their casualties, they assembled a Bangalore torpedo (a long tube filled with explosives), slid it under a barbed wire obstacle, and blew the obstacle apart. The Soldiers behind the engineers fought their way through the gap, took the German defenses, and won the battle.

appers from the 107th Engineer Battalion spent part of their summer at an elementary school in the small town of Aluksne, Latvia, near the Russian border.

The Michigan National Guard Sappers put their skills to work for the humanitarian project. Troops rotated in two-week intervals, performing their annual training while they assisted Latvian soldiers with the renovation of a Latvian elementary school. They began in June with plumbing, wiring, drywall, and painting.

"There is a lot to do, but that's why we came," said Staff Sgt. Joshua Yaniskivis, Company A, 107th Engineer Battalion.

The ongoing renovations were the civic action side of an international military exercise that took place in this summer in Latvia, Lithuania, and Estonia.

Known as RESCUER/MEDCEUR 2004, the antiterrorism exercise tested the reactions of an 18-nation task force during simulated disasters. While some Soldiers role played as terrorists, the Michigan engineers wrapped up final touches on the school house.

"I was really looking forward to this project. I knew it was going to be a good thing for the children," said Master Sgt. Joseph Patrick, non-commissioned officer in charge of the project. "When we first got here, the building didn't have any hot water and there were bare wires hanging out of the walls and ceilings. I was really concerned for the safety of the children."

Patrick and the Latvian soldiers worked on the project the entire time while the Michigan engineers rotated in and out over a eight-week period.

"The Latvians are hard working, dedicated people," Patrick said. "Working with them, at first, was a bit different. But then you saw their skill and how they kept on working."

The Michigan National Guard established a formal partnership with Latvia in the early 1990s when Latvia gained its independence from the former Soviet Union.

For the Latvian troops, working with the Michigan soldiers on the project offers a chance to learn, said 2nd Lt. Gatis Jasko, the Latvian officer in charge.



With help from a heat gun, Spec. Benjamin Woods scrapes several layers of paint off the school's front door.

"We are exchanging different ideas of problem solving and experiencing another culture," said Jasko. "However, many of our values are the same."

While Jasko speaks fluent English, many of his soldiers know little English. But some said they are learning from the Americans.

"I am learning the English language more," said Pfc. Zintiz Brieditis. Showing his Michigan influence he added, "I like serving with *these guys*; they are interesting."

The 107th troops also enjoyed their time with the Latvians. "Staying in open bay barracks with the Latvians helped bring us closer together," Patrick said. His soldiers agree.

"This has been a good experience," said Spec. Benjamin Woods. "We're working with a good bunch of guys."

The project was finished by the end of July and the 107th returned to their home station in Ishpeming, Mich.

When the Latvian students return to school, the walls will be bright and the air will smell of fresh paint.

"It will be a world of difference," said Patrick.



Capt. Andrejs Mezmalis of the Latvian Navy and Col. Michael McDaniel, task force commander, answer questions from local media.

rue to their state partnership with Latvia, Michigan troops led joint military exercises simultaneously in Latvia, Lithuania, and Estonia during Rescuer-Medical Exercise Central Europe.

The Michigan National Guard had the lead role in RESCUER/MEDCEUR 2004, an anti-terrorism exercise hosted by the Baltic States. The two-week event tested an international task force on its ability to face disasters and medical emergencies.

Col. Michael McDaniel, Michigan's assistant adjutant general for Homeland Security, served as task force commander during the exercise, which was headquartered on a Latvian army base in the small town of Aluksne, near the Russian border.

"Just 15 years ago, an exercise like this would have been virtually impossible," said McDaniel. "Countries once considered adversaries now work as allies. Our nations are bound together in a global effort against terrorism."

A total of 18 countries took part in the exercise, marking the first large-scale operation undertaken by the Baltic States since becoming NATO partners this past April.

McDaniel and roughly 30 other Michigan Guardsmen served in various roles during the exercise. The computer-driven scenario prompted simulated disasters that troops in neighboring Lithuania and Estonia had to react to in real time.

"This was a complex operation with a lot of moving parts," McDaniel said. "A lot of lessons were learned and a lot of new friendships were formed."

The exercise concluded July 29.

Take charge of

Michigan leads mul

Story and photos by Staf



During the opening ceremony of RESCUER/MEDCUER, members of the mulin the joint exercise.

your task force

ti-national exercise

f Sgt. Jonathan Stein



lti-national task force salute the flags of the 18 nations that participated



Lt. Col. Dwight Mickelson and Master Sgt. Tom Hetchler prepare the daily briefing.

"Countries once considered adversaries now work as allies. Our nations are bound together in a global effort against terrorism."

- Col. Mike McDaniel



Maj. Scott Hiipakka, deputy operations officer, briefs Latvian officers during the exercise.

Highway dedicated to former Michigan Guardsman



Practically, single-handedly, he protected the left flank of his company's position in the offensive to break the Germans gothic line.

Company B was the extreme left assault unit of the corps. The advance was stopped by heavy fire from Monticelli Ridge and the company took cover behind an embankment. Pfc. Oscar G. Johnson, a mortar gunner, having expended his ammunition, assumed the duties of a rifleman.

Johnson, a Yooper and eventual Michigan Army National Guardsman, served during WWII and is one of six Michigan Guardsmen to receive the Medal of Honor. Fittingly, Highway M-69, which runs through Johnson's hometown of Foster City, Mich., was

renamed in his honor.

On September 16, 1944, Johnson was ordered to establish a combat post 50 yards to the left of the company to cover its exposed flank. Repeated enemy counterattacks, supported by artillery, mortar, and machinegun fire from the high ground to his front, killed or wounded his squad of seven men. Collecting weapons and ammunition from his fallen comrades, in the face of hostile fire, he held his exposed position and inflicted heavy casualties upon the enemy who, several times, came close enough to throw hand grenades.

That night the enemy launched its heaviest attack, putting great pressure against the lone defender of the left flank. In spite of exploding mortar fire all around him and machinegun bullets which whipped the crest of his shallow trench, Johnson stood erect and repulsed the attack with grenades and small arms fire. He remained awake and on the alert throughout the night, frustrating all attempts at infiltration.

The next day, 25 German soldiers surrendered to him. That afternoon, the two men sent to reinforce him were caught in a devastating mortar and artillery barrage. Johnson rushed to the shell hole where they lay half buried and seriously wounded. He covered their position by his fire and assisted a medic rendering aid. That night Johnson secured their movement to the rear and remained on watch until his company was relieved.

Five separate companies of German paratroopers had attacked Company B without success and 20 dead Germans were found in front of Johnson's defensive position. By his heroic stand, Johnson was, in a large measure, responsible for defeating the enemy's attempts to turn the exposed left flank.

Following his active duty tour, Johnson served in the Michigan Army National Guard from March 1950 to April 1980 and was honorably discharged as a chief warrant officer four.

Superflight

By 2nd Lt. Penny Carroll

In June, 24 members of the Air National Guard representing Michigan, Tennessee, Indiana, and Ohio, met at the Alpena Combat Readiness Training Center for the week-long "Superflight Training Exercise." As NBC trainers, these Airmen concentrated on their war-time personnel readiness roles while also training in contamination avoidance, global positioning system familiarization, hazard analysis, chemical identification, NBC plotting, vapor-liquid solid tracking, self-aid and buddy care, and chemical air processing systems.

The exercise, designed to mimic a real-world readiness flight, was initiated by three NCOs who recently returned from different deployments in Iraq where they worked in 24-person shops staffed with Guard, Reserve, and active duty personnel. It gave participants an opportunity to work on technical competencies, team-building and communication skills. "Too often we focus solely on our own wing," said exercise coordinator Master Sgt. Mike Carroll, 127 Wing, Selfridge Air National Guard Base. "The Superflight exercise helped us take off the tunnel vison blinders."



Readiness personnel practice their base layout and plotting skills wearing full MOPP gear. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Neil Felver)

Wolverine Brigade bids farewell

Compiled by Capt. Tracy Arnett

The Michigan Army National Guard's largest brigade began the process of inactivating its headquarters on May 16, as part of an Army restructuring plan. The effective date of inactivation for the 46th Brigade, 38th Infantry Division, — the Wolverine Brigade — is Sept. 1, 2005.

"The Army is undergoing the most massive reorganization of forces in its history," stated Maj. Andy Roman, force integration readiness officer for the Michigan Army National Guard. This re-organization includes the break up of the Wolverine Brigade.

Nine years after it became a state, Michigan was organized into nine militia divisions, 19 brigades, and 45 regiments, all consisting of the uniformed companies in southeast Michigan and the organized militia throughout the remainder of the state. On July 12, 1855, the Grand Rapids Light Guard, Grand Rapids Artillery and Ringgold's Light Artillery were formed as independent volunteer militia companies and became the forerunners of Headquarters, 46th Infantry Brigade.

On June 10, 1861, the Grand Rapids units were reorganized as the 3rd Michigan Volunteer Infantry Regiment and were mustered into federal service for Civil War duty. The regiment participated in its first engagement against Confederate forces at Blackburn's Ford, Va., just 38 days after they were federalized. The 3rd participated in 27 engagements, including Bull Run and Gettysburg, and was twice cited for bravery in the Army Orders of the Day. The regiment returned to Michigan, was paid, and disbanded in Detroit on June 20, 1864.

After the Civil War, units in Grand Rapids and southwestern Michigan consisted of independent militia companies of the Michigan State Troops. The Grand Rapids Guards were formed out of the existing militia companies on June 27, 1872.

On Sept. 8, 1873, the local units were called out to aid civil authorities because of rioting at the Muskegon county jail. This is the first recorded case of troops of the 46th being called out to aid civil authorities.

Companies in the southwestern portion of Michigan were consolidated and designated as the 2nd Infantry Regiment on July 6, 1874. Grand Rapids units were called on Mar. 23, 1875, to aid the sheriff in Greenville to quell rioting of disgruntled log drivers. They were called, again, to attend to Labor Day riots in Kalamazoo in 1891.

On Dec. 31, 1894, all Michigan troops were designated as the Michigan National Guard.

The Michigan National Guard's 2nd Infantry was redesignated the 32nd Michigan Volunteer Infantry Regiment and mobilized for the war with Spain at Camp Eaton, Island Lake, Mich., on May 11, 1898. The regiment then left for



Col. Bill Ewald, 46th Brigade, 38th Infantry Division commander, shakes the hand of Col. Jim Anderson, chief of staff, following an emotional inactivation ceremony. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Ron Raflik)

Camp De Soto, Fla., trained for several weeks, and then moved to Fernandia, Fla., for embarkation to Cuba.

However, just as the troops were getting ready to load, the orders were cancelled and the regiment returned to Island Lake, Mich. The companies were mustered out of service October and November 1898. Unfortunately, while stationed in the south, many members of the regiment contracted typhoid and yellow fever. As a result, some deaths occurred.

The 32nd Michigan Volunteer Infantry Regiment was reorganized as the 2nd Infantry Regiment, July 10, 1899, and later, called to duty during the Jackson prison riots.

In 1909, the 2nd Infantry spent three weeks in Durand guarding the railroad shops and yards during a railroad strike and in 1912 they were called up because of rioting at "copper country," in Michigan's Upper Peninsula.

In 1913, Company H, 2nd Infantry Regiment was selected to march at the nation's capitol in the inaugural parade for President Woodrow Wilson. Two years later, the regiment was designated as the 32nd Infantry and remained as such until World War I.

The Headquarters Company was reorganized as a supply company for west Michigan's 32nd Infantry Regiment on June 23, 1916. It was then mustered into federal duty at Camp Grayling, for the raids on American-Mexican border towns by bandit Pancho Villa. The company departed for El Paso, Texas, and pitched tents at Camp Cotton, 300 yards from the Mexican border. (continued next page)

After establishing camp, the regiment spent four weeks training for duty. They posted guards to points in the vicinity and to the outpost line that stretched from Fort Hancock, Texas, to Los Cruses, N.M. Following nearly eight months of federal service, the regiment returned home only to be drafted back into service in August 1917.

On Apr. 6, 1917, the United States declared war on Germany and on June 1, the entire 32nd Regiment was called to duty. During this time, the regiment was redesignated as the 126th Infantry Regiment and deployed to Europe with the famed 32nd "Red Arrow" Division in Gen. John J. Pershing's American Expeditionary Force.

On May 16, 1918, the 126th Infantry Regiment relieved the 329th French Infantry Regiment on the line of trenches. Subsequently, the 126th became the first American troops to set foot on German soil. Tragically, while pulling duty, a private from Company I, 126th Infantry, was killed due to enemy action. Thus, the 126th was also the first to lose a soldier in German territory.

During World War I, the 32nd Division met 15 different divisions of the German Army in combat, defeating them all and inspiring the nickname "Les Terribles." On April 14, the French Army decorated the regimental colors with the "French Croix de Guerre with Palm."

By the end of WWI, Supply Company, 126th Infantry Regiment (the ancestor to the Headquarters

Company of the 46th Brigade) had seen action in four major campaigns: Aisne-Marne, Alsace, Oise-Aisne, and Meuse-Argonne.

On June 10, 1921, during the post war reorganization, the 126th Infantry Regiment was federally recognized.

On Oct. 15, 1940, the 32nd was called into federal service for a national emergency created by the war in Europe. The 126th departed for Camp Beauregard, La., on Oct. 25 and began a 13 week training phase.

Then, on Sunday, Dec. 7, 1941, the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor. This attack, once again, plunged the 126th into combat. The 126th set up protection around vital installations in Louisiana and Mississippi to guard against sabotage attempts.

On April 18, 1942, the troops of the regiment boarded S.S. Lurline, a luxury ocean liner converted to transport troops. The troops arrived in Adelaide, Australia, on May 20, 1942, and moved directly to Camp Sandy Creek about 18 miles outside the city.

In August 1942, the 126th moved to Brisbane, Australia, and were later transported by Liberty ships to Port Moresby, New Guinea. During October and November of the same

year, 2nd Battalion, (preceded by the Anti-Tank Company, Service Company, and Cannon Company) moved over the Owen Stanley Mountains on a mission to cut air strips and establish supply points. The 126th Regiment first routed the Japanese at Buna, New Guinea, and then went on to defeat them in decisive action at Aitipi, Lyte, and Luzon.

During WWII, the regiment ran up a number of combat "firsts" including: most combat time ever served by a U.S. Army regiment (654 days); first to fight offensive action against the Japanese; first to make a beachhead landing in New Guinea; and first U.S. infantry regiment to be airborne into combat.

The regiment served occupation duty at Kokura, Japan, until Feb. 28, 1946, when they were inactivated. The regiment was awarded the Distinguished Unit Commendation Medal and the Philippine Presidential Unit Commendation Medal for action in that country.

The 126th Infantry Regiment was reorganized in December 1946 under the 46th Infantry Division.

In 1955 during field training at Camp Grayling, the centennial of the "Grand Old 126th" was celebrated with a special review and ceremonies attended by many dignitaries from the State of Michigan.

One year later, a devastating tornado struck the Hudsonville and Grand Rapids areas. Approximately 600 members of the regiment were called to state duty to protect lives and property.

On March 15, 1963, the battle groups of the 126th were reorganized into 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Infantry Battalions and HHC, 2nd Brigade, 46th Infantry Division. Headquarters of the 1st and 3rd Battalions, and HHC, 2nd Brigade were stationed in Grand Rapids while 2nd Battalion was stationed in Muskegon.

On Nov. 15, 1965, the most radical reorganization in the history of the National Guard took place, creating a Selective Reserve Force. This force would consist of selected units, with 100 percent strength and equipment, which would receive extensive training and be prepared to leave their armories within seven days of receiving alert orders for mobilization to active duty. The 2nd Brigade, 46th Infantry Division was selected as the headquarters for the Selective Reserve Force units in Michigan and 3rd Battalion, 126th Infantry was selected to be the western Michigan battalion of the Selective Reserve Force. All Michigan Army National Guard units of the Selective Reserve Force became a part of the 38th Infantry Division, Indiana Army National Guard, in the event of mobilization. The Selective Reserve Force units immediately accelerated their training and increased the number of drills to 72 per year.

During WWI, members of the 126th Infantry Regiment became the first American troops to set foot on German soil.

During WWII, the 126th Infantry Regiment was the first to fight offensive action against the Jananese; first to make a beachhead landing in New Guinea; and first U.S. infantry regiment to be airborne into combat. On Aug. 31, 1966, units of 3rd Battalion, 126th Infantry were moved to South Haven to aid civil authorities with racial disturbances. After arriving, it was decided not to use the troops and they returned to home station.

Then, on July 23, 1967, the 2nd Brigade and 3rd Battalion were also called to state active duty for rioting in Detroit. It was clear that civilian authorities were undermanned and could not control the mobs of people.

At the same time, while 1st and 2nd Battalions of the 126th were undergoing annual field training at Camp Grayling, Gov. George Romney asked President Johnson for federal assistance. The 1st and 2nd Battalions were alerted and moved immediately to Detroit.

The following day, the entire Michigan Army and Air National Guard was called to federal duty and placed under the command of an active Army lieutenant general.

Meanwhile, riots broke out in other Michigan cities; so, 1st Battalion, 126th

Infantry was released from federal duty and placed on state active duty as a mobile reserve force. As rioting quelled, the units were released from active duty and returned to home stations.

The 1967 Detroit Riots are still considered one of the worse riots in the nation's history, resulting in 43 deaths and approximately \$500 million in damage.

In 1968, Michigan lost the 46th Infantry Division and the 1st and 2nd Battalions of the 126th Infantry due to reorganization. The 2nd Brigade was redesignated as the 46th Brigade, 38th Infantry Division. As the only remaining combat arms brigade in the state, it was designated as Headquarters and Headquarters Company.

In the aftermath of Sept. 11, the Army National Guard is realigning its force structure to face the new demands of the war on terror. Under the plan, Army National Guard units will move from a Cold War era doctrine to a highly flexible and lethal force doctrine that exploits mobility.

At the time of its inactivation, the 46th Wolverine Brigade included the following military organizations: 1st Battalion, 126th Armor Regiment; 1st Battalion, 125th Infantry Regiment; 1st Battalion, 119th Field Artillery Regiment; 146th Forward Support Battalion; and Headquarters Company, 46th Brigade.

As the headquarters dissolve, the battalions that make up the approximate 2,600 soldier brigade will be divided. The 125th and the 126th will report to the Engineer Brigade headquartered in Flint; the 119th will report to the 177th Military Police Brigade in Taylor; the 146th and the 46th Brigade will inactivate and these soldiers will be absorbed into the joint force structure. The majority of Wolverine Brigade Soldiers will continue to drill in their same armories, however, never again as a part of the Wolverine Brigade.



Final formation. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Ron Raflik)

Government by and for the people

Two Iraqi women realize dream of freedom

By Master Sgt. Denice Rankin

Two Iraqi women, Taghreed and Surood, (last names omitted for protection) recently spoke at the Southfield VFW hall during a luncheon sponsored by the Iraq-America Freedom Alliance. The IAFA is a coalition of Iraqi and American organizations and individuals with a vision of a democratic and pluralistic Iraq, a nation tolerant of numerous distinct ethnic, religious, and cultural groups.

The women are in America to give voice to Iraqis who are grateful for their newfound freedoms. They reflected on life in Iraq before and after Saddam Hussein's reign of terror and expressed deep gratitude to American servicemen and women for helping their country become liberated and democratic.

aghreed is a native of
Baghdad. Her father was
not a member of the Baath
party so she was denied the privileges
of receiving a passport. The
government also would not allow her
to pursue her Master's degree.

She remembers her mother's phone call the day Saddam Hussein's statue was lowered in the city square.

"She told me to turn on the TV and see the greatest thing in our life. I turned on the TV and I saw the sculpture of the coward Saddam falling down. I jumped and laughed and cried so, so much, but after all of these passions I went out of our home and touched the trees just to assure myself that the day was not a dream and that we had freedom."

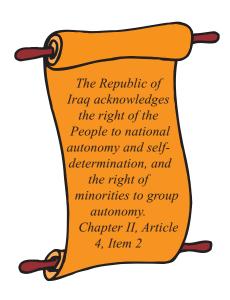
Taghreed spoke at a national political convention and stressed that many Iraqi citizens do not view the war in Iraq as an invasion.

"Please let all the world know how we needed this liberation. Tell the American Soldiers that they did the right thing in Iraq, and if they want to assure themselves that they are liberators, let them ask the Iraqi children, and they will see the shining future in their eyes."

After Iraq's liberation, Taghreed traveled abroad for the first time. She spent her time in America traveling across the nation to inform citizens, military members, and politicians of the positive changes in Iraq.

As the new administrative director of the Iraqi Independent Democrats, one of Taghreed's proudest accomplishments was to type the new Iraqi Constitution. She said took special note of the wording which recognizes basic human rights and the laws drafted to protect citizens from the torture they endured under Hussein's dictatorship.

"I spent the most important years of my life under Saddam's regime and all my time was under fear, but now I feel I am young again, and I don't want to lose my remaining youth."



Surood is from a multi-ethnic Kurdish region in Kirkuk, Iraq, which resisted Hussein's regime through decades-long quests for national independence. They supported Iran during the Iran-Iraq War and suffered retaliation in the form of chemical weapons and the burning and razing of villages.

In 1991, Surood's village was attacked by the Republican Guard. Her family and neighbors fled to the

mountains in automobiles to evade helicopters that were firing at them. They survived the helicopter attack but were later ambushed by Hussein's army. They were fired on by machine guns and rocket-propelled grenades. Their car was hit and burst into flames.

Surood said, somehow, "maybe God," she was able to get out of the car but her mother, sister, and aunt were killed.

"I thought I was the only one from my family alive, but later I found my younger brother and we found my father," said Surood. "They shot him three times. They wanted to execute him but my little brother and I begged them and kissed their boots to let my father live. Thanks to God, they let him live."

"We also found my grandmother. She was completely burned. Her face had melted. You couldn't see her eyes. It was like meat."

After the attack, Surood returned to her home town to find Saddam's army had taken control of the city. She graduated from high school, but day to day life under the Republican Guard had become "unbelievable, unbearable." Her family fled again, this time to the northern city of Irbil, considered a Kurdish safe haven. "We were now free, but my heart was in Kirkuk."

In Irbil, Surood attended and graduated from the University of Mosul. She went on to work as an agronomist in the agricultural research center. Later, she worked for seven years for the United Nations. Still longing to return home, she anxiously awaited Iraq's liberation.

"When I heard that the Americans were coming to free Iraq, I was very hopeful. I wanted to go home. As soon as I heard that Kirkuk was free, I went back," said Surood.

"They shot him three times.
They wanted to execute him
but my little brother and I
begged them and kissed their
boot to let my father live.
-Surood

With the passing of time and newly acquired freedoms, Surood can now speak about the oppression she endured and atrocities she witnessed. She recalls the time of tyranny in Kirkuk, when Kurds could not find work, could not register, and could not give their children Kurdish names.

"Before the Americans came, you could not say you were Kurdish in Kirkuk. It is wonderful now, to say who you are and not be afraid, and it is wonderful to look towards rebuilding my home and my community."

"The government in Kirkuk requested my father to work with them because he has a good reputation and all the different ethnics respect him very much. He is a famous man in the Kirkuk community, but many times Saddam tried to have him executed."

"Saddam killed more than 182,000 Kurds. I witnessed, myself, hundreds of Kurdish young men who were killed by the Republican Guard because they were wearing Kurdish clothes. They put most of them in mass graves. Some were buried alive." said Surood.

"He destroyed five thousand villages, most of them around Kirkuk, between 1987 and 1988. [This was done] to remove the Kurdish population in Kirkuk and make an Arab city. [Kurds make up approximately 15 percent of the population.] He sold Kurdish teenage females to Arab countries like Egypt, Kuwait, and Qatar."

"The important thing I want the American citizens to know is how our life improved to better, and how we were under Saddam's system."

"God bless all the
American Soldiers. Iraqi
people have hope to see
life in a different way."
-Taghreed

Taghreed and Surood expressed their hope to acquire a "government for the people" in Iraq. For both women, freedom is not only a dream anymore.

"God bless all the American Soldiers," said Taghreed. Iraqi people have hope to see life in a different way. Thanks a lot.....and say hello to the brave American Soldiers."

Surood and Taghreed plan to return to Iraq and continue their work to make Iraq a democratic nation.



Michigan Army and Air National Guard members stand with Taghreed and Surood, two Iraqi women who told about their new found freedom during a luncheon at the Southfield VFW hall. From left to right are 1st Lt. Leah Voelker, Spc. Chad Vanderven, Surood, Staff Sgt. Wayne Rench, Capt. Tracy Arnett, Spc. Marc Kunze, Taghreed, Sgt. Mitchell Smith, Master Sgt. Denice Rankin, Pfc. Martin Jones, and Maj. William Borden. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Jim Downen, Jr.)

Operation Enduring Freedom

Battle Creek ANGB, Selfridge ANGB

Iraq, Kyrgystan, Qutar, Uzbekistan, Langley AFB, Va., Selfridge ANGB

Recent Homecomings

Sinai
Siliai
Iraq
Iraq
Iraq
Iraq
Cuba
Iraq

Currently deployed

Company C, 185 Aviation	Iraq
Company F, 425 Infantry	Iraq
1439 Engineer Team	Iraq
1440 Engineer Team	Iraq
1462 Transportation Company	Iraq
Medical Command	Iraq
163 Personnel Services Battalion	Kuwait
119 Field Artillery Battalion	Cuba
126 Armor Battalion	Bosnia, Ft. Hood, Texas,

110 Fighter Wing

127 Wing

Selfridge ANGB and classified locations

Upcoming deployments

107 Engineer Battalion FWD2 Company A, 107 Engineer Battalion Company C, 107 Engineer Battalion 119 Field Artillery Battalion 126 Armor Battalion 182 Field Artillery Battalion 263 Personnel Services Detachment Company F, 238 Aviation HHD, 507 Engineer Battalion 1073 Maintenance Company HHD, 1225 Combat Support Battalion 1436 Engineer Company 1461 Transportation Company 1463 Transportation Company

A Michigan Army National Guard Soldier from the Pontiac based 1775th Military Police Company is reunited in August 2004 with his family after a 15 month deployment. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Jim Downen Jr.)

Returning to your civilian job

By Lt. Col. Gary Aten (ret.)

Guard members and Reservists who are experiencing harassment, discrimination, or who have been fired, denied promotions, or pay raises, or have been refused reemployment after a period of voluntary or involuntary military service, do not have to go it alone.

A voice of support, the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve, is a volunteer organization chartered by the Department of Defense to provide educational, consulting, and mediation services for employers and their employees who are members of the National Guard or Reserve. There are more than 4,500 volunteers nationwide with 130 in Michigan.

ESGR provides four major services:

1. Employer outreach consists of a review of an employer's personnel policies to ensure they comply with state and federal laws; recognition of employers providing exceptional support for their Guard and Reserve employees; and briefings to business, civic, and human resource leaders and professionals.

- 2. Unit liaison consists of materials and support for commanders who are responsible for conducting Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act briefings to their unit members; conducting mobilization and demobilization briefings; and encouraging the nomination of employers for recognition.
- 3. Ombudsman services consist of informal mediation between employers and Guard and Reserve employees to resolve military service related conflicts.
- 4. Veterans' Employment Services is a partnership between ESGR and the Department of Labor and Economic Growth to provide transition assistance services to service members returning from mobilization and deployment. This new service is currently in the development stage.

For more information call the Michigan ESGR Committee at 517-483-5828.

Medals for global war on terror

By Jim Garamone, American Forces Press Service

President George W. Bush has issued an executive order establishing two military awards for actions in the global war on terrorism.

The president signed the order March 12, establishing the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal and the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal.

A White House spokesman said the medals recognize the "sacrifices and contributions" military members make in the global war on terror.

The Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal is awarded to service members who serve in military *expeditions* to combat terrorism on or after Sept. 11, 2001. Operation Enduring Freedom is the prime operation the medal may be awarded for. Personnel assigned to *operations* in Afghanistan and the Philippines are examples of service members who will receive the award.

The Global War on Terrorism Service Medal is awarded to service members who serve in military *operations* to combat terrorism on or after Sept. 11, 2001. Operation Noble Eagle is an example of an operation the medal may be awarded for.

The awards do not take the place of the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, established Dec. 4, 1961, or the Armed Forces Service Medal, established Jan. 11, 1996.

"Any member who qualified for those medals by reason of service in operations to combat terrorism between Sept. 11, 2001, and a terminal date to be determined by the Secretary of Defense, shall remain qualified for those medals," the executive order reads. "Upon application, any such member may be awarded either the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal or the Global War on



Members of Company A, 156th Signal Battalion, were awarded the expeditionary medal for their service in Iraq. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Helen Miller)

Terrorism Service Medal in lieu of the Armed Forces
Expeditionary Medal or the Armed Forces Service Medal."

No one may be awarded more than one of the four medals for service in the same approved expedition or operation to combat terrorism. No one is entitled to more than one award of the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal or the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal.

The medals may be awarded posthumously. DoD and military service officials, including the Coast Guard, are working on provisions to award the medals.

Trebinje

Michigan Army and Air National Guard Promotions

From May 1, 2004 through July 31, 2004

Army Guard

Col.
Britton, Michael

Lt. Col.
Bahr, Bruce H.
Cason, Henry
Hensen, William
Lee, Michael T.
Rogers, Paul D.
Scoville, Steven

Maj. Bender, James A. Bennett, Lavetta Kline, Phillip Omilusik, Kevin M. Resst, Timothy J.

Capt.
Andrews, Mark D.
Golden, Nathan T.
Hoffman, Terry E.
Hoffman, Tony C.
Leatrea, Matthew M.
Mann, Richard A.
Marshall, Jeffery V.

1st Lt. Caverly, Calvin J. Kendall, Jayme L. Yirsa, Jason J.

Villet, Ryan C.

2nd Lt.
Daniels, David A.
Brooks, Richard L.
Martinus, Brian S.
Rodgers, Shannon J.
Grimsby, Joseph A.
Rice, Kenneth R.
Senn, Ryan T.
Herschleb, Douglas A.

Warrant Officer 4
Dickensheets, John P.
Riley, Laura K.
Salyers, Michael P.

Warrant Officer 3 Maynard, Richard C. Rosen, Karl F.

Warrant Officer 2 Rondo, Raquel R.

Warrant Officer 1 Alcook, Marcia L. Mandujano, Luis J.

Master Sgt.
Arnett, Charles E.
Chamberlain, Chad A.
Domingue, Lillie M.
Hart, Richard A.
Matyas, John E.
Rector, Jeffrey P.

Sgt. 1st Class Albert, Jason E. Barrios, Quinn Behm, Eric F. Bever, Clyde E. Broman, Bruce S. Castilla, Lorenzo Davis, Matthew B. Dove, Margot A. Dyer, Lawrence J. Grosskopf, Richard Hansen, David E. Hansen, Kurt D. Hardrick, Kevin Hoffman, Timothy Jeannotte, Robert J. Kelley, Brian J. Kotila, Jack W. Kraus, Michael G. Lapalm, Ellary O. Maupin, Robert S. Mazza, Derren J. Mcclenon, Curtis F. Mills, Daniel M. Montgomery, Robert Patterson, Phil D. Phillips, William V. Pickett, Terry N. Plantz, Christopher Rurka, Karen L. Salters, Douglas J. Snyder, William F. Starks, Deon J. Stevens, John R. Swan, Priscilla A. Trudgeon, Rene D. Vaive, Todd A. Vickery, Curtiss P. Wallis, James R. Whitcher, Todd D. Williams, Stephen Witt, Michael J. Young, Robert D.

Staff Sgt. Anderson, Nicholas Andrews, Wilburn L. Arnold, Jeffery M. Astbury, Larry A. Baker, Terrance H. Benton, Rodger A. Brewster, Kevin I. Brink, Jason W. Bruno, Phillip M. Caradonna, Paul J. Carroll, Roy L. Chmurynski, Angela Cox, Bradley S. Crisp, Michael S. Cross, William C. Dale, Bruce H. Davila, David K. Deno, Robert L. Dunbar, Brian K. Egan, Jason L. Ellis, Casey A.

Esparza, Jesus J.

Zigila, Gregory A.

Fonger, Hoyt R. Forrest, Dorothea Geiger, Paul H. Giroux, Joseph M. Golden, Ari R. Good, Ralph E. Gowell, Scott A. Haines, Hugh K. Hale, Charles L. Harding, Vicki A. Harvey, Duane A. Hawker, Timothy A. Huber, Joshua B. Hude, Edward L. Jibson, Roy S. June, Brandon D. Kangas, Richard R. Kantz, Douglas B. Killoran, Jason R. Knaub, Thomas W. Knight, Christopher. Kohtala, Jesse L. Kowalski, Gary R. Kriger, Robert N. Kubicki, Keith A. Laforest, Joseph S. Langenbacher, Jason Larocque, Caroline Ledford, Michael T. Lynn, Mark E. Masella, George B. Mcneel, Ross E. Mettlen, Kimberly Micheals, John G. Mudge, Glen A. Muszynski, Thomas Olvera, James A. Palacios, John M. Person, Scott D. Putney, Joseph D. Reeves, Jack H. Riley, Stanley Severt, Cary S. Sluhan, Diana M. Steinbrecher, George Swift, Louis J. Vanbrocklin, John V. Velezrodriguez, Idriss Ventre, Gregory R. Witgen, Robert D. Wright, James E. Young, Stephen R.

Sgt.
Bailey, Tammie M.
Ballard, Darius J.
Banfill, Ronney B.
Bayer, Christopher
Benyard, Valerie M.
Boyd, Michael J.
Brigman, James J.
Brookins, David M.
Burrow, Dale E.
Cain, Michael R.
Campbell, Craig A.
Colby, Justin M.
Connell, Anthony J.
Cotton, Tony R.

Daw, Jason T. Devries, Timothy J. Dillion, Wilson R. Dion, Earl R. Dunmire, Marlin D. Duong, Maloth Erwin, Robert J. Fettig, David R. Forcia, Lyle G. Freda, Michael S. Garnett, Mario A. Geise, Elwood A. Golden, Betty J. Gowings, Daniel F. Guild, Joshua D. Hampton, Durond Haner, Philip R. Hatfield, William K. Heard, Cory W. Heim, Christopher J. Hendricks, Richard Hill, Robert W. Holsinger, Tara S. Hopkins, Kevin W. Huntley, Patrick D. Kemp, Kal W. Kilgore, Andrea S. Knowles, Angela R. Larson, James B. Lessor, Whitney L. Maddix, James J. Marks, Joshua W. Marsh, Neil E. Moore, Timothy M. Myszak, Timothy J. Nichols, Ross E. Nylen, Eric J. Oneill, Phillip J. Padgett, Russell J. Pahler, John W. Parker, Kirk P. Piepkow, Thomas Proulx, Justin T. Ouick, Derek D. Racine, Aaron M. Rhodes, Chad M. Rodriguez, Nolan R. Rossman, Brian E. Row, Mark J. Sarns, Douglas W. Schneider, James W. Smith, Brandon J. Smith, Ricky J. Smyers, Archie E. Southwell, Rick L. Sovey, Andrew J. Stankevich, Timothy Stewart, Tommy R. Thomas, Stephen G. Thren, Emilee C. Torres, Milagros Underwood, Bobby J. Unger, Timothy A. Vanalstine, Robert M. Vandam, Carl L. Vansingel, Brian J.

Curran, Kathleen R.

Vogel, Brian L.
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Weatherspoon, Kevin
Weese, Johnathan R.
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Williams, David J.
Williams, Ronald J.
Wilson, Walter J.

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Pvt. 1st Class
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Aren, Mark R.
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Shaw, Jody L.

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Wildfong, Timothy J.

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Wizorek, Allen L.

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Yager, Jamison G.

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Augustine, David L.

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Walker, Francis J.

Cuel, William S.

Henderson, William

Lt. Col.

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Airman Wartley, Cleo I. Jr

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Staff Sgt. Donald G. Miller, (Ret), 62, Aug. 10, 2004

Maj. Charles W. Burtt, 38, Aug. 23, 2004

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